

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT  
THE UNITED STATES TRADE REPRESENTATIVE  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20508  
April 2, 2010

The Honorable Ike Skelton  
U.S. House of Representatives  
2206 Rayburn HOB  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Skelton:

Thank you for your recent letter regarding market access for American pork in the People's Republic of China. As you note in your letter, Secretary Vilsack and I have worked hard to lift all restrictions on U.S. live swine, pork and pork products imposed throughout the world in wake of the emergence of the H1N1 influenza virus.

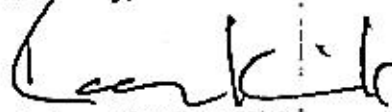
We have had many successes and I am pleased to inform you that the United States and China recently reached an agreement to reopen the Chinese market to U.S. pork and pork products.

Under the new agreement, China agreed to reopen its market to all pork products and to base its decisions on international science-based guidelines. Pork trade will resume once both countries finalize the export documentation.

Since the outbreak of the H1N1 influenza virus, the Office of the United States Trade Representative (USTR) has worked closely with the Department of Agriculture (USDA), the Department of Commerce, the Department of Health and Human Services, and the Centers for Disease Control to assure our trading partners that American pork is safe. USTR and USDA have also worked tirelessly with the relevant international organizations and the U.S. pork industry to promote science based measures and I am pleased that almost all of our trading partners who imposed restrictions on U.S. live swine, pork and pork products since April 2009 have removed those restrictions.

Given the importance of the Chinese market to U.S. agricultural interests, this is a major win for America's pork producers. I look forward to working with you in the future to ensure that foreign markets remain open for U.S. agricultural exports.

Sincerely,



Ambassador Ron Kirk